Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 261556
61 ORIGIN EB-07
INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 IO-10 TRSE-00 AID-05
COME-00 SWF-01 OMB-01 SP-02 L-02 FRB-01 CIEP-01
CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06
NEA-06 SSO-00 INRE-00 /076 R
DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/OFP-JAPLACKE/LS APPROVED BY EB-JLKATZ, ACTING USDA-REBELL IO/AGR-PJBYRNES TREASURY-(INFO) AID-(INFO)
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E.O. 11652:NA TAGS: FAO, EAGR SUBJECT: SHORT-TERM CEREAL PROBLEM CONSULTATION
REF: ROME 16306
FODAG LONDON FOR US DEL TO FAC (ROBERT SERVICE)
1. FODAG SHOULD SEEK URGENT APPOINTMENT WITH FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL BOERMA TO MAKE DE MARCHE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:
US REPRESENTATIVES AT NOVEMBER 29 CONSULTATION WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS US ASSESSMENT SOUTH ASIAN NATIONS' IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR CEREALS AND US ESTIMATES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 02 STATE 261556
EXPORT AVAILABILITIES;

- -- SHORT OF EXPORT CONTROLS WHICH IT NOT PREPARED ADOPT, US CANNOT EARMARK AVAILABLE GRAIN SUPPLIES; PRESENT POLICY IS TO CLOSELY MONITOR VOLUME AND DESTINATIONS OF SHIPMENTS THROUGH ITS VOLUNTARY EXPORT CLEARANCE SYSTEM; -- IT IS US VIEW THAT MAJOR CEREALS EXPORTERS ARE ALREADY PRINCIPLE FOOD AID DONORS AND CANNOT BE EXPECTED, UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, TO SHOULDER FINANCIAL BURDEN FOR WHATEVER ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONAL FINANCING MAY BE REQUIRED
- -- IF DIR GEN INTENDS, AS IMPLIED BY HIS REMARKS TO FRASER (ROME 16380), TO THREATEN PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AS MEANS TO PRESSURE US, THEN WE MUST RECONSIDER OUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE CONSULTATIONS;
- -- US IS PREPARED TO COOPERATE IN EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY URGENT FOOD NEEDS AND AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES TO MEET THEM, BUT IN DOING SO IT IS UNWILLING TO EXPOSE ITSELF TO THREATS IN FORM OF PUBLIC CRITICISM--ESPECIAL-LY IN LIGHT OF ITS UNMATCHED RECORD OF RESPONSE TO HUMANITARIAN NEEDS:
- --IN US VIEW, PROBLEM OF MEETING FOOD RELIEF REQUIREMENTS IS LESS ONE OF AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES THAN IT IS OF FINANCE. DEBATES AT THIRD PREPCOM AND AT WFC ITSELF MADE CLEAR GENERAL VIEW THAT TRADITIONAL DONORS CANNOT BE SOLE SOURCE FOR FOOD RELIEF, BUT FUNDING MUST COME FROM OIL EXPORTERS AS WELL.
- 2. FYI. AS OF NOW, WE STILL INTEND THAT BELL AND SERVICE WILL ATTEND NOVEMBER 29 CONSULTATION. BUT BOERMA MUST UNDERSTAND THAT WE MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IF HE INTENDS TO USE HIS POSITION AS INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT TO BRING MEDIA PRESSURE ON US TO MAKE FOOD AID AND EXPORT COMMITMENTS IT IS NOT AT THIS TIME PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE. END FYI
- 3. PLEASE REPORT BOERMA'S REACTION ASAP, REPEATING YOUR REPLY TO LONDON FOR BELL AND SERVICE. INGERSOLL

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FOR FOOD RELIEF:

NNN

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